

COVID-19

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PROVIDES UPDATE ON COVID-19 RESPONSE

Link to view the press conference is at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXTENDS DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL DEADLINES

Snohomish County Council extended some development approval deadlines. Details at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PASSES 60 DAY HIRING FREEZE COVERING ALL COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

Snohomish County Council adopted a 60-day hiring freeze that covers all departments. Details at right.

COMMUNITY TRANSIT UPDATES

Details on Community Transit Updates at right.

PROVIDENCE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER FEATURED IN A PBS DOCUMENTARY TONIGHT AT 9 P.M.

Tune into PBS at 9:00 p.m. tonight to see a special report that investigates the U.S. to the coronavirus pandemic.

GOVERNOR INSLEE TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY

Gov. Jay Inslee will brief the public on the state's plan for recovery from the COVID-19 outbreak at 5:00 p.m. today. Link at right.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

Snohomish County Provides Update on COVID-19 Response

County Executive Dave Somers, Health Officer Dr. Chris Spitters, and Snohomish County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director Tom Teigen held a virtual press conference this morning to address the county's response to COVID-19.

The video is available for viewing at <https://www.snohd.org/495/COVID-19-General-Information>.

Snohomish County Extends Development Approval Deadlines

Yesterday, the Snohomish County Council extended the expiration dates for development applications, approvals and permits by 120 days. The extension applies to development clearances that had not expired as of March 23. The extension covers more than two dozen types of approvals, including rezones, variances, building permits, site plans, subdivisions, and conditional permits.

Snohomish County Passes 60-Day Hiring Freeze Covering All County Departments

In a move that is projected to save between \$350,000 and \$600,000 per month, the Snohomish County Council passed a 60-day hiring freeze that covers all departments. Additional cost-saving measures across departments are being considered including reducing travel and training and delaying studies, with staff layoffs currently listed as a last resort.

Community Transit Updates

Community Transit Fares Suspended through May 31, 2020

Monthly riders do not need to purchase a May pass. [Community Transit](#) has suspended fare collections through May 31.

Community Transit Restored Some Trips

Community Transit has restored some trips as Boeing employees begin to return to work in Everett.

The following trips have been [restored](#): Routes 107, 109, 130, 196, 202, 227, 247, 435, 855, and 880.

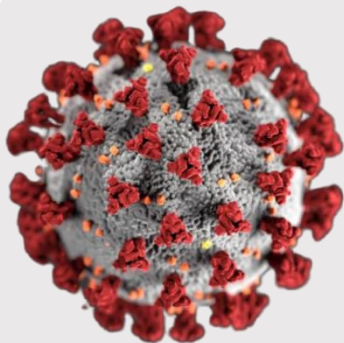
Providence Regional Medical Center Featured in a PBS Documentary Tonight at 9:00 P.M.

PBS is airing a special report that investigates the U.S. response to the coronavirus pandemic — from Washington State, where the first known case of COVID-19 in America was identified, to Washington D.C.

For more information please tune into [PBS](#) tonight at 9 p.m.

Governor Inslee to Hold Press Conference Today

Gov. Jay Inslee is set to hold a press conference at 5 p.m. today to address the people of Washington state to lay out a plan for recovery from the COVID-19 outbreak. To watch visit [TVW](#) or tune in to your favorite local station.



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WASHINGTON POISON CENTER SEES INCREASE IN CALLS RELATED TO CLEANING AGENTS, HAND SANITIZER IN 2020

Calls to Washington Poison Control (WAPC) have risen since March 2020 with a substantial increase in calls for household cleaners and hand sanitizer. More details at right.

SUPERINTENDENT CHRIS REYKDAL TO HOST WEBINAR ON THURSDAY

Washington State Superintendent Chris Reykdal will host a webinar Thursday, April 23, from 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. PST to outline the current status of Washington's schools and answer questions. Details at right.

WASHINGTON PART OF MULTI-STATE STUDENT EDUCATION LOAN SERVICER INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE BORROWERS FINANCIAL RELIEF DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Borrowers that are struggling to make payments on commercially owned or privately held student loans may be eligible for expanded relief. Details at right.

US SENATE PASSES \$500 BILLION VIRUS RELIEF BILL

The US Senate passed a \$500 billion virus relief bill. Elements of the bill and next steps for full approval are at right.

Washington Poison Center Sees Increase in Calls Related to Cleaning Agents, Hand Sanitizer

According to a CDC report released yesterday, the daily number of calls to poison centers increased sharply at the beginning of March 2020 for exposures to both cleaners and disinfectants. Calls to [Washington Poison Control](#) (WAPC) are mirroring the national call volume increase, with at 23% increase in calls for household cleaners and an 83% increase in calls for hand sanitizer.

WAPC shares these tips:

- Keep cleaning supplies and medications out of reach of any children
- Thoroughly read directions on cleaners prior to use
- Do not mix cleaners
- If you are unsure about the use of any cleaning product or worry about you or a family member being exposed, call WAPC at 1-800-222-1222

Read the full story from KING-5 [here](#).

Superintendent Chris Reykdal on High School Seniors and Services for Students and Families: Webinar Thursday

High school seniors have new clarity about graduation expectations, and school districts across Washington State are trying to provide technology access, meals, and childcare to students and their families.

Washington State Superintendent Chris Reykdal will host a webinar Thursday, April 23, from 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. PST to outline the current status of Washington's schools and answer questions.

Please register [here](#) to attend the webinar.

Washington Part of Multi-State Student Education Loan Servicer Initiative to Provide Borrowers Financial Relief During COVID-19 Pandemic

The Washington Department of Financial Institutions announced today that Washington borrowers with commercially-owned Federal Family Education Program Loans or privately held student loans who are struggling to make their payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for expanded relief.

Relief options include:

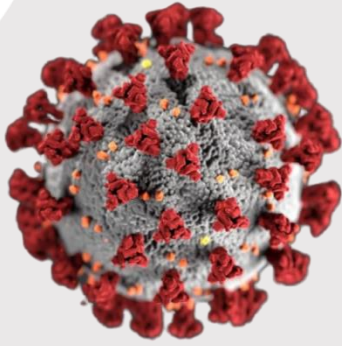
- Providing a minimum of 90 days of forbearance
- Waiving late payment fees
- Ensuring that no borrower is subject to negative credit reporting
- Ceasing debt collection lawsuits for 90 days
- Working with borrowers to enroll them in other borrower assistance programs, such as income-based repayment.

Borrowers in need of assistance should immediately contact their student loan servicer to learn about the options that are appropriate to their circumstances.

For more information please read WA DFI's attached news release and visit their [website](#).

US Senate Passes \$500 Billion Virus Relief Bill

News came late this afternoon that the United States Senate has passed a new coronavirus relief bill valued at \$500 billion. Leaders expect the House to vote on the package Thursday and President Trump is expected to sign the measure. Included in the package:



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BORDER RESTRICTIONS WITH CANADA AND MEXICO TO BE EXTENDED

The non-essential travel ban with Canada and Mexico will be extended through May 21. Link at right.

FDA AUTHORIZES FIRST AT-HOME COLLECTION KIT FOR COVID-19

The FDA authorized the first at-home collection kit for COVID-19. Link to full press release at right.

CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Please note: The statistics are also available on the [Snohomish Health District website](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211 for help**. For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211**

- \$331 billion for the small business payroll fund
- \$75 billion in new money for hospitals
- \$25 billion in new money for COVID-19 testing
- \$60 billion for existing small-business loans and grants program

Border Restrictions with Canada and Mexico to be Extended

Border restrictions with Canada and Mexico will be extended another 30 days until May 21 for non-essential travel. The current travel restrictions were set to expire this week. Details [here](#).

FDA Authorizes First At-Home Collection Kit for COVID-19

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday announced the authorization of the first at-home collection kit for the novel coronavirus. The kit will allow users to collect their own samples to send to the LabCorp for testing. More details [here](#).

Confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of April 21, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 1:47 p.m.
Confirmed	2,189
Probable	175
Deceased	98

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 1:47 p.m.
Arlington	89
Bothell*	156
Brier	16
Darrington	<5
Edmonds	243
Everett	658
Gold Bar	<5
Granite Falls	21
Index	0
Lake Stevens	97
Lynnwood	440
Marysville	169
Mill Creek	38
Monroe	58
Mountlake Terrace	79
Mukilteo	51
Snohomish	118
Stanwood	82
Sultan	<5
Tulalip	8
Unknown/Other	14
Woodinville*	12
Woodway	6

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Not all cases are within city limits and totals may include nearby unincorporated Snohomish County. Unknown includes cases still under investigation.

*Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.